

PROFILE OF DISSERTATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL MASTER IN ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE (PPG-GAFAR) FROM THE FLUMINENSE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY (UFF)

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Introduction

The growth of national interest in Pharmaceutical Sciences has been constant in recent years, guided mainly by the expansion of the social right to health and the importance of the sector in practice of evidence-based health, with strong expansion in undergraduate and graduate training¹. That is why it is necessary to understand the production profile of a graduate program in the pharmaceutical sciences, seeking to understand the topics of interest to the master's students and the institution. This is the scope of the analysis. Therefore, the dissertations of the master's program of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF) will be evaluated.

Material and Methods

This is a descriptive, documentary, and quantitative study. For the construction of the methodological path, other studies were used^{2,3}. UFF has an Institutional Repository (RiUFF) that contains the scientific productions of the entire university community, such as course conclusion works, monographs, dissertations, theses, and scientific articles. This information system was used to retrieve PPG-GAFAR dissertations from 2014 to 2020.

Data analysis was divided into three fields: demography of authorship, structure, and forms of argumentation. In the first one, information about author, title, supervisor, co-supervisor, year of defense and keywords were collected. For the presentation of the keyword cloud, the file with the referring data was released on a specific website (<https://wordart.com/nwl5dq0alegg/nuvem-de-palavras>), a free word cloud generator.

Regarding the structures of the dissertations, the types of research regarding the procedures, the approach to the problem, the research instruments used, and whether there was a presentation of research hypotheses were observed. Finally, regarding the forms of argumentation, the number of dissertations that presented justification, limitations and recommendations for future studies was counted. All data were exported to Microsoft Excel spreadsheets for descriptive data analysis.

Results and Discussion

The search found 48 dissertations divided between the years 2014 to 2020. The average number of publications per year was 6.86 dissertations. The years with the highest percentage of publications were 2016, 2018, and 2020 (16.7%; n=8). It is assumed that, as it is a constantly updated platform, until the time of the research, the dissertations for the years 2021 and 2022 had not yet been registered.

It is noted that the publications are mainly carried out by women, representing 83.3% (n=40) of the analyzed dissertations. Similar works carried out in other thematic areas, such as Accounting Sciences, found a male predominance in graduate studies (SANTOS et al., 2011). However, in the area of Health, the results show a greater predominance of women in graduate programs^{4,5}.

The PPG-GAFAR dissertations indicated the use of 123 keywords, excluding repetitions. The highest number of keywords found in the dissertations was 6, while the least was 3 words. The works included in the repository had an average of 3.8 keywords. It is noteworthy that the keyword with the highest number of occurrences is Pharmaceutical Assistance (AF) (n=15). This result is expected because it is one of the focuses of the program. Then, the most cited were Management by Processes, Patient Safety, and Medication Errors (n=4).

For the elaboration of all dissertations found in the postgraduate program repository, a range of instruments used was identified. Documentary analysis was the most used, occurring in 17 works. Questionnaires (n=11), bibliographic analysis (n=10), and interviews (n=7) are other instruments that appear as the most used. Management tools (n=3), despite appearing on a smaller scale, are probably present due to the professional aspect of the master's course.

Conclusion

The present study brought the profile of dissertations published by PPG-GAFAR masters between the years 2014 and 2020. Among the limitations of the study, we can highlight: (a) the use of the Institutional Repository of UFF, a database that is being updated and which did not include academic production from the years 2021 and 2022, and (b) the non-generalization to other programs post graduate.

It is considered important to continue the development of this profile, since the Faculty of Pharmacy has other postgraduate programs, aiming at the constant monitoring of the evolution of the institution's scientific production.

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